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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FORMER SEAPORT MUSEUM HEAD SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS

PHILADELPHIA – United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan announced today that U.S. District Court Judge R. Barclay Surrick sentenced John S. Carter today to 15 years in prison for fraud and tax evasion stemming from his schemes to defraud the Independence Seaport Museum, a non-profit corporation, in Philadelphia. In June, Carter pled guilty to two counts of mail fraud and one count of tax evasion. Carter made numerous purchases for personal use in the Seaport Museum's name. Carter also used Seaport Museum vessels for his own personal enjoyment, thereby defrauding the museum of more than \$900,000. Carter fraudulently obtained ownership of a "split dollar" life insurance policy by forging the signatures of two Seaport Museum board members intending to cause losses of approximately \$1.1 million. Carter also failed to report on his tax returns the more than \$1.5 million in fraud proceeds that he received. The judge also ordered restitution of \$1.3 million, criminal forfeiture of \$1.56 million which represents the proceeds of the fraud, and a \$30,000 fine. Carter has 45 days to report to prison. Upon his release, he must serve 3 years' probation during which time he is ordered to cooperate with the IRS in the payment of his taxes.

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